



The Girls Circle Project

Purpose

The Girls Circle Project is designed to train college women to facilitate Girls Circles in Columbus-area schools and agencies. A Girls Circle, made up of two college women co-facilitators and 5 to 10 young girls, is meant to both empower young girls and also to foster healthy relationships among them.

Impact

Since 2008, the Girls Circle Project has trained over 140 OSU college women to run approximately 135 Girls Circles and thereby impact approximately 900 girls' lives in the Columbus area. In 2014 - 2015, The Girls Circle Project partnered with 19 different greater Columbus public, private, and charter schools, as well as agencies, to positively reach numerous girls between the 4th and 12th grades.

The young girls report positive experiences in understanding their own identities, other cultures, and more healthy and open peer relations. The facilitators report increased confidence in public speaking and leadership skills; a greater understanding of diversity, social constructs, power, and privilege and how they affect our views and interactions in society; and the realization of how much of a difference they can make in a young girl's life.



Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

College of Education & Human Ecology
Department of Women's, Sexuality, and Gender Studies
Office of Service-Learning
Office of Student Life
Second Year Transformational Experience

Community Partners Involved

Columbus Alternative High School
KIPP Journey Academy
Hilliard City Schools
Hilliard Darby Elementary
New Albany Middle School
St. Brendan School
Summit Transition Academy Middle School and High School
The Wellington School
Washington Elementary
YWCA

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